

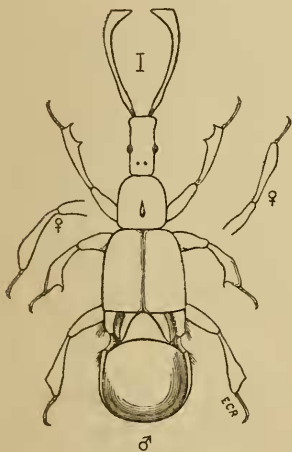
DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *ARTICERUS* FROM AUSTRALIA.

BY G. R. WATERHOUSE, F.Z.S., ETC.

Genus—*ARTICERUS*, Dalman.

Articerus Duboulayi. *Elongatus, rufo-testaceus, oculis nigris, supra pubescens crebre punctulatus; caput porrectum, elongatum, cylindricum, ante oculos perparum angustius. Antennæ compressæ, longæ, apice clavatæ. Thorax subquadratus, ante medium quadratum angustior, disco fovea oblonga impressus. Elytra striola suturali impressa. Abdomen supra basi concavum, postice convexum. Long. corp. 1 lin.*

The antennæ in this insect are fully equal to the head and thorax in length, and are terminated by a compressed truncated club. The elongate and almost cylindrical head is furnished with a deep fovea on either side, in front of the eyes, into which the antennæ are inserted; and as this pit not only opens laterally but forwards at the apex of the rostrum, the antennæ are much approximated at the base, when they are directed forwards. They are curved inwards at the apex. Viewing the insect from above, they appear slender and to be suddenly dilated into a triangular club at the apex; but, viewed from the side, the antennæ, owing to their vertically compressed form, present a very different aspect; they then appear rather stout, and the width gradually increases to the apex; the club no longer presenting a suddenly dilated form.

*Articerus Duboulayi*.

The organs under consideration appear to be composed of an elongated scape, which is smooth and only pubescent at the apex; a funiculus composed of several joints ankylosed, and distinguished by being somewhat punctured and rugulose and densely pubescent, and finally by a club or larger truncated terminal joint, which is smooth and less densely pubescent. The eyes are rather small, and made up of comparatively large facets. The head, thorax, and elytra are almost destitute of gloss, being densely and finely punctured and pubescent; the abdomen is glossy and sparingly punctured. On the vertex of the head are two small dark raised spots, having much the appearance of ocelli.* The thorax has the disc de-

* Similar raised spots are represented by Mr. Westwood in his figure of *Articerus braziliensis*, See Trans. Ent. Soc., vol. iii., n. s. pl. 7, fig. 5.

pressed, and furnished with a large oblong fovea. The elytra present an indistinct sutural stria, and have two very narrow dusky bands crossing them near the apex. The much-raised and incrassated margins of the basal half of the abdomen are clothed with longish yellow hairs. The legs in the female are simple and moderately stout; the tibiæ, slender at the base, become gradually stouter to the apical third, and are then contracted in width to the apex. In the male the femora are much incrassated in the middle, and somewhat compressed; the tibiæ are much compressed; those of the anterior legs are furnished with two short spines at the apex, on either side of a depression into which the tarsus is inserted; and they are suddenly dilated on the side at the apical third, so as to form an angle terminated by an acute spine. The middle tibiæ are gradually dilated from the base to the middle, then obliquely truncated on the outer side, and are furnished, like the anterior tibiæ, with a spine on the inner side, placed at some little distance from the apex. The hinder tibiæ are more dilated, attaining their greatest width at the apical third, and then being obliquely truncated.

The section of *Clavigeridæ*, to which this insect belongs, and which is essentially distinguished by the possession of eyes, promises, from the wide geographical range of the species hitherto discovered, to become an important one; and possibly the peculiar form of antennæ which characterizes the species just described may hereafter form a sectional, rather than a specific character, in which case, it will be desirable to raise it to the rank of, at least, a sub-genus, to which the name *Horaticus* may be applied.

Several specimens of this insect were found in an ants' nest at Swan River, W. Australia, by Mr. DuBoulay; who, as I am informed, observed a very large number running about when he lifted up a stone covering the nest. A subsequent visit, however, produced neither beetles nor ants, owing to a flood having taken place. Mr. DuBoulay remarks that when this insect is alive, the antennæ seem flexible, "as if made of india-rubber."

AN ESSAY TOWARDS A KNOWLEDGE OF BRITISH HOMOPTERA.

BY THE REV. T. A. MARSHALL, M.A.

I design in the present paper to invite the attention of Entomologists to the British *Homoptera Auchenorrhyncha*, better known as *Cicadas*. There are probably about 130 indigenous species, the majority of which are described in Continental works, and a few by Curtis, Leach, Hardy;